

Amendments to the Specification:**Summary of the Invention:**

Replace paragraphs [0003], [0004] and [0005] with the following paragraphs:

[0003] In accordance with an embodiment of the present invention, a computer-implemented method to gauge and control churn of a project may include determining an estimated project churn, wherein project churn includes any identifiable and unplanned changes to a scope of the project. The method may also include identifying at least one task of the project requiring rework or modification. The method may additionally include collecting heuristic information on each task of the project requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes for determining the estimated project churn. Collecting heuristic information may include at least one of: collecting a time to complete a same or a similar task in another project; sampling a plurality of times to complete the same or similar task in a plurality of other projects; and surveying a plurality of experienced project managers to provide an estimated time requirement to complete the task. The method may also include entering at least optimistic, pessimistic and expected time requirements for reworking or modifying each task of the project requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes. The method may further include allocating resources in response to the estimated project churn based on the collected heuristic information and the at least optimistic, pessimistic and expected time requirements for each task of the project.

[0004] In accordance with another embodiment of the present invention, a method to gauge and control churn of a project may include entering a project-specific task list and identifying at least one task requiring rework or modification. The method may also include entering at least optimistic, pessimistic and expected time requirements to rework or modify each task of the project requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes. The method may also include collecting heuristic information on each task of the project to determine the optimistic, pessimistic and expected time requirement to rework or modify each task of the project requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes. Collecting the heuristic information may include at least one of: collecting a time to complete a same or a similar task in

another project; sampling a plurality of times to complete the same or similar task in a plurality of other projects; and surveying a plurality of experienced project managers to provide an estimated time requirement to complete the task. A weighting factor for each of the optimistic, pessimistic and expected time requirements may be entered to perform a weighted average duration analysis. An average time requirement may be determined to rework or modify each task requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes. A weighted average duration analysis may be performed on any tasks requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes. An impact to the project may be determined in response to the weighted average duration analysis.

[0005] In accordance with another embodiment of the present invention, a system to gauge and control churn of a project may include an input device to enter heuristic information on each task of a project requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes. The project may have at least one task requiring rework or modification. The heuristic information may include time to complete a same or a similar task in another project; a sampling of a plurality of times to complete the same or similar task in a plurality of other projects; and a survey a plurality of experienced project managers to provide an estimated time requirement to complete the task. The system may also include a user interface generator to generate a graphical user interface displayable to a user to enter at least optimistic, pessimistic and expected time requirements for reworking or modifying each task of the project requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes. The system may also include a processor and an analysis program operable on the processor to determine an impact to the project in response to any potential project changes using the heuristic information. The analysis program may be adapted to utilize the at least optimistic, pessimistic and expected time requirements for each task of the project and a weighting factor for each of the at least optimistic, pessimistic and expected time requirements to determine the impact to the project. An output device may present the impact to a user.

Delete paragraph [0006].

Replace paragraph [0007] with the following paragraph:

[0007] In accordance with another embodiment of the present invention, a computer-readable storage medium having computer-executable instructions for performing a method. The computer-readable storage medium may be one of an electronic, optical, electromagnetic, infrared or semiconductor system. The method may include determining an estimated project churn. The project churn may include any identifiable and unplanned changes to a scope of the project. The method may also include identifying at least one task requiring rework or modification and collecting heuristic information on each task of the project requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes for determining the estimated project churn. Collecting heuristic information may include at least one of: collecting a time to complete a same or a similar task in another project; sampling a plurality of times to complete the same or similar task in a plurality of other projects; and surveying a plurality of experienced project managers to provide an estimated time requirement to complete the task. The method may also include entering at least optimistic, pessimistic and expected time requirements for reworking or modifying each task of the project requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes. The method may further include allocating resources in response to the estimated project churn based on the collected heuristic information and the at least optimistic, pessimistic and expected time requirements for each task of the project.